

Letchworth

56. The unparished town of Letchworth is currently served by 13 Councillors in total, split across 5 wards. The wards currently exhibit high electoral variance, so changes will be required through this review. Whilst there will be some growth in electorate in the town, it is not as significant as in other areas, hence the number of councillors serving the community is necessarily reducing.
57. Cutting across the town is the railway. Whilst current wards straddle the railway, local Councillors have advised it does form a barrier in some places. The town is therefore effectively divided into 'north' and 'south' using the railway as a reference point. Members of NHC have been invited to identify communities within Letchworth, and these have been accommodated within the proposed warding arrangements.
58. In total, Letchworth will be served by 12 members across 6 wards.
59. The proposed wards have been discussed by Members and a range of options considered. Two options have been presented to Members at Full Council, and the preference chosen by Councillors, which they feel best meets the three statutory criteria is:
- a. Letchworth South
This comprises the southern part of the town, bordered on three sides by the town boundary. The northern boundary is Baldock Road / Hitchin Road, but including the triangle (Baldock Road, Pixmore Way, Norton Way South). This includes areas of the town (such as Jackmans) without artificially splitting them as present.
 - b. Letchworth East
This is the area to the north of Letchworth South, south of the railway, and east of Norton Way South. As a small and distinct area, this works well as a separate single member ward.
 - c. Letchworth West
This is the remaining area of Letchworth, south of the railway line. The communities in the northern area here are distinct from those elsewhere in southern Letchworth. Whilst this has a variance of 10.3%, this represents the best balance between the statutory criteria.

d. Letchworth Grange

This is the northern-most part of Letchworth, bordered on the north and west by the town boundary. It includes the Grange estate, as identified by local Councillors.

e. Letchworth Wilbury

This ward is the Wilbury community, as identified by local Members, expanded slightly eastwards to ensure electoral equality.

f. Letchworth Norton

This ward is centred on Norton common, and includes the community of Norton village and the Longmead/Hawthorn Hill area.

		Electorate	
		In 2021	In 2028
Ward name	Letchworth South		
Councillors	3		
Total electorate		6,038	6,259
Variance		3.9%	-5.6%

		Electorate	
		In 2021	In 2028
Ward name	Letchworth East		
Councillors	1		
Total electorate		2,245	2,426
Variance		15.9%	9.8%

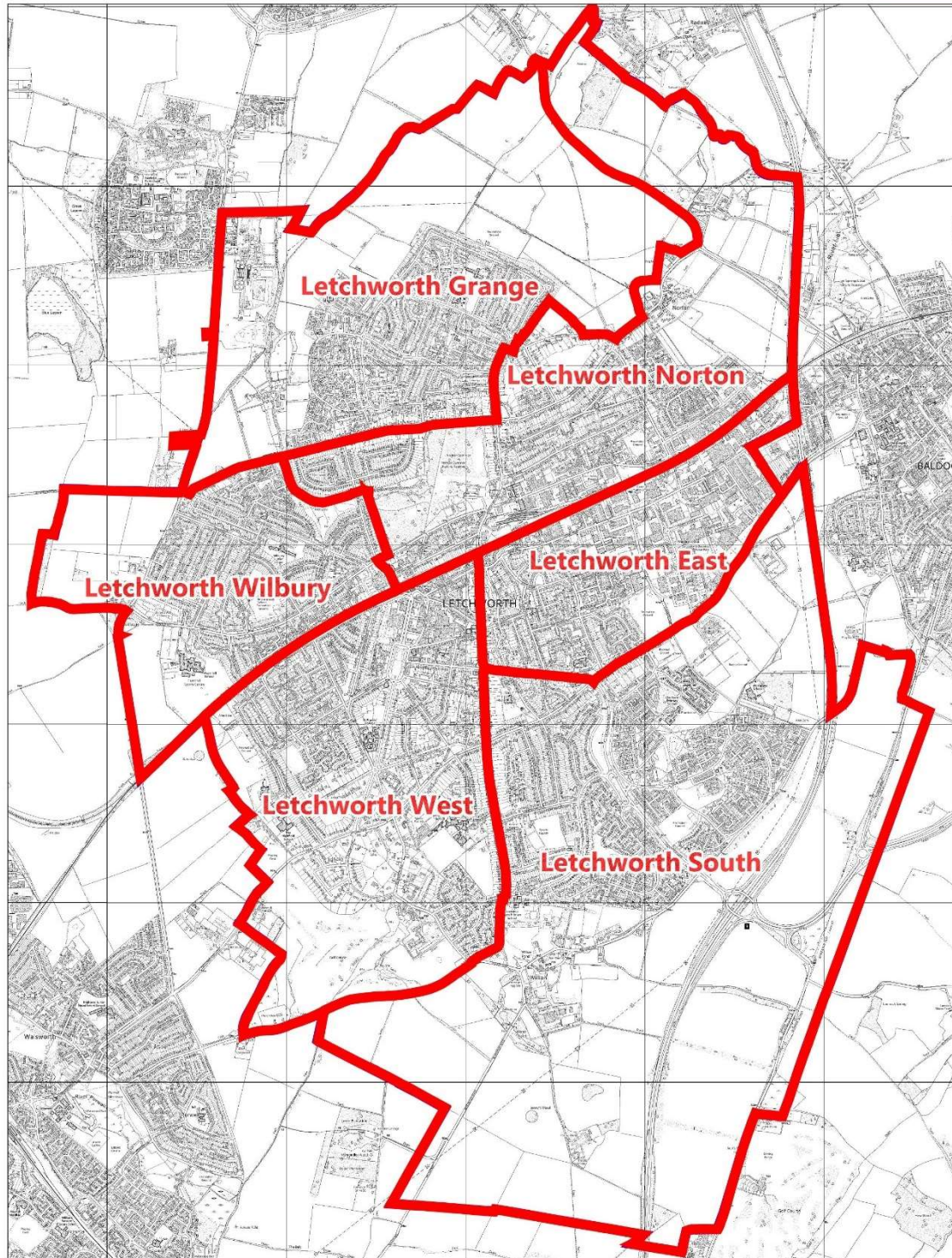
		Electorate	
		In 2021	In 2028
Ward name	Letchworth West		
Councillors	2		
Total electorate		4,751	4,878
Variance		22.6%	10.3%

		Electorate	
		In 2021	In 2028
Ward name	Letchworth Grange		
Councillors	2		
Total electorate		4,391	4,860
Variance		13.3%	9.9%

		Electorate	
		In 2021	In 2028
Ward name	Letchworth Norton		
Councillors	2		
Total electorate		3,571	4,078
Variance		-7.9%	-7.8%

		Electorate	
		In 2021	In 2028
Ward name	Letchworth Wilbury		
Councillors	2		
Total electorate		4086	4086
Variance		5.4%	-7.6%

Proposed Letchworth Wards



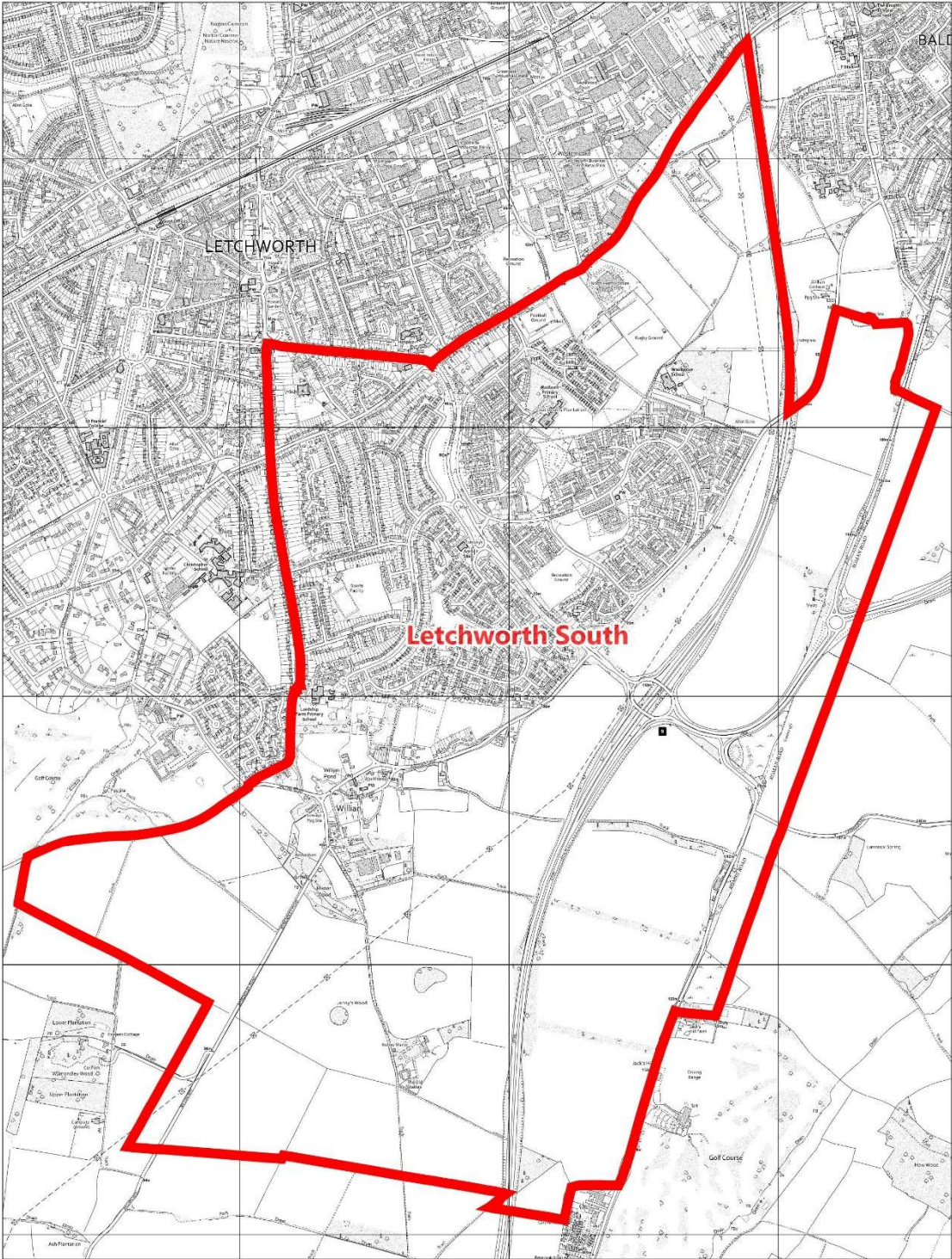
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Proposed Letchworth South Ward



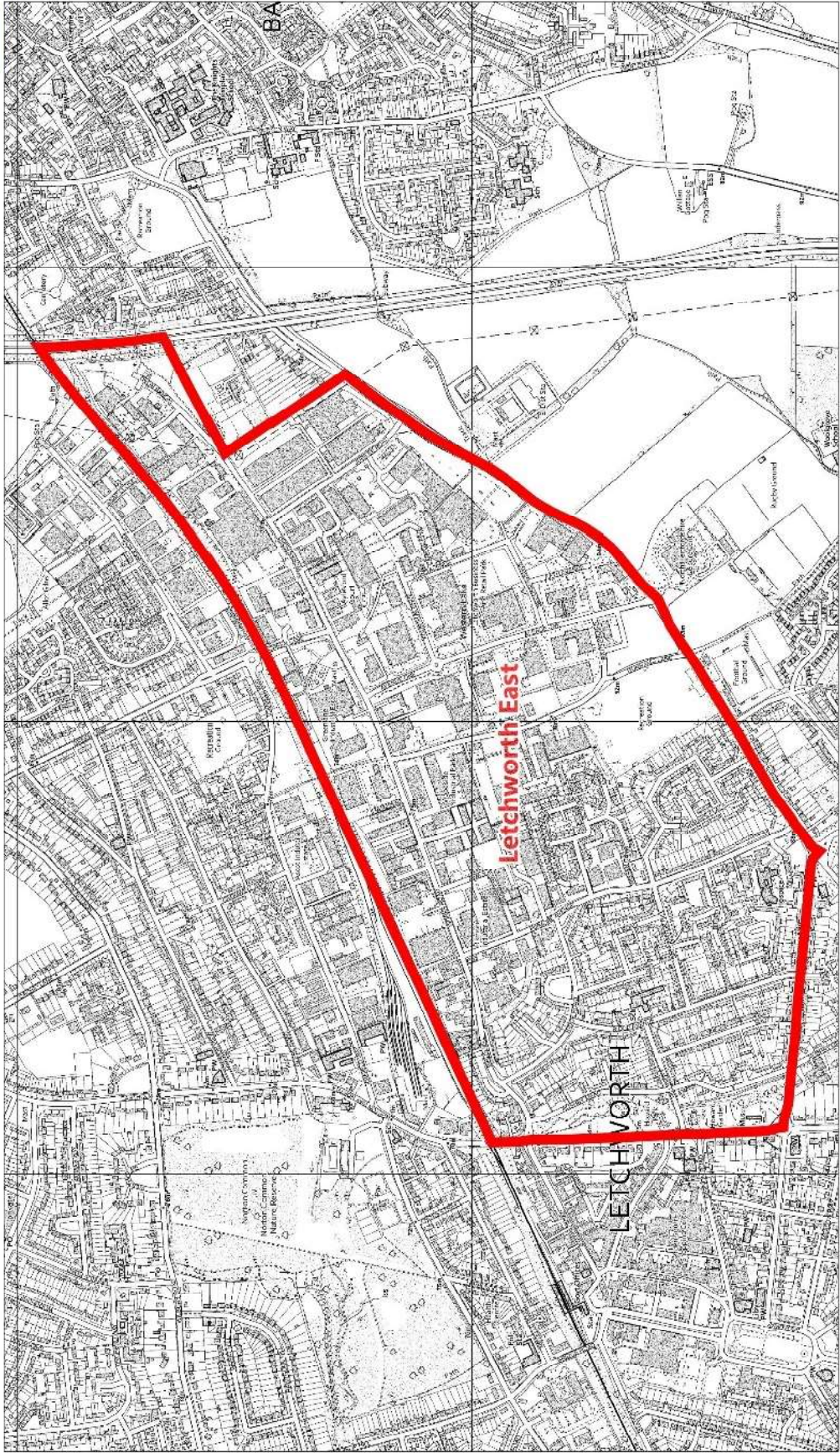
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Proposed Letchworth East Ward

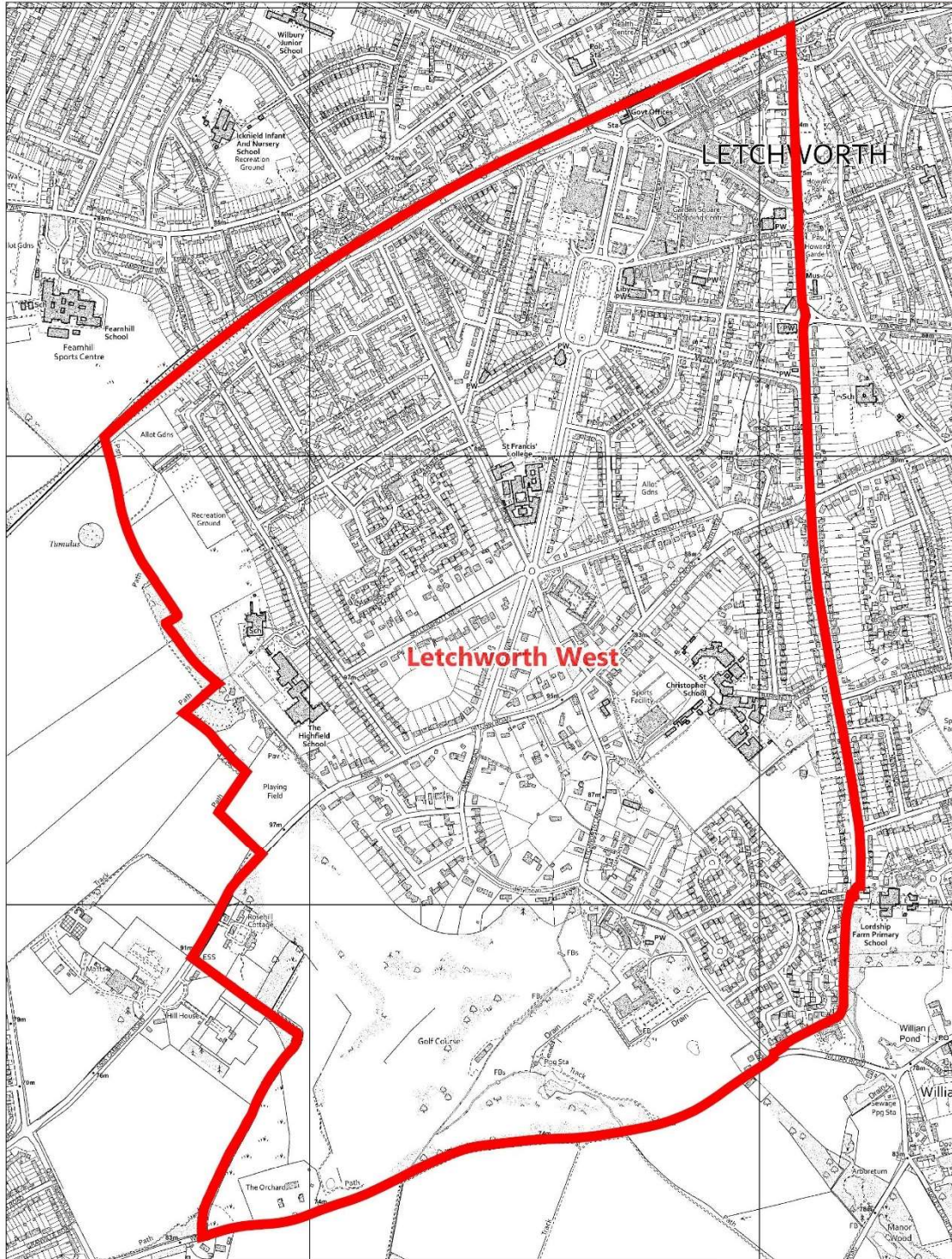


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Proposed Letchworth West Ward



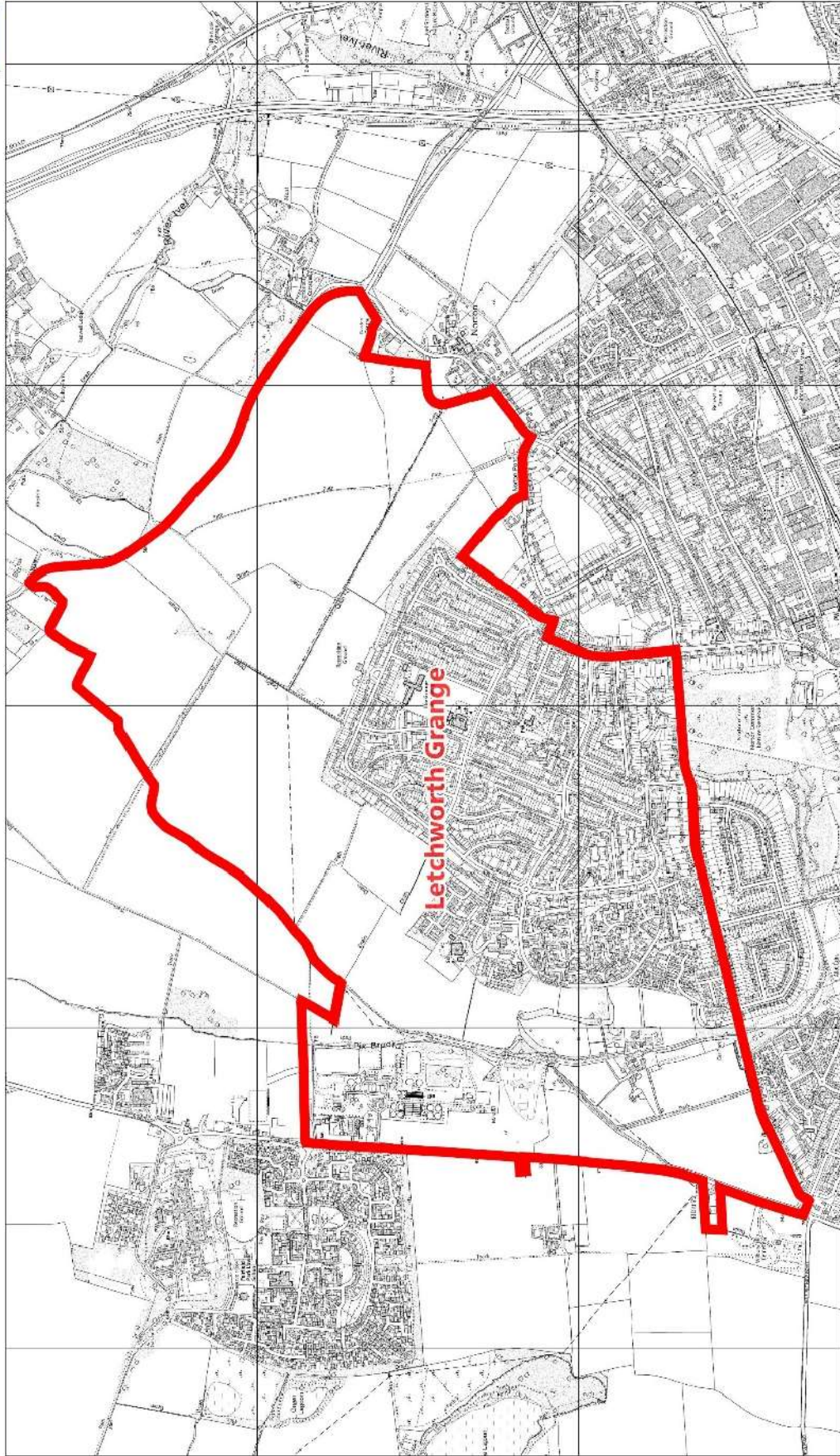
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Proposed Letchworth Grange Ward

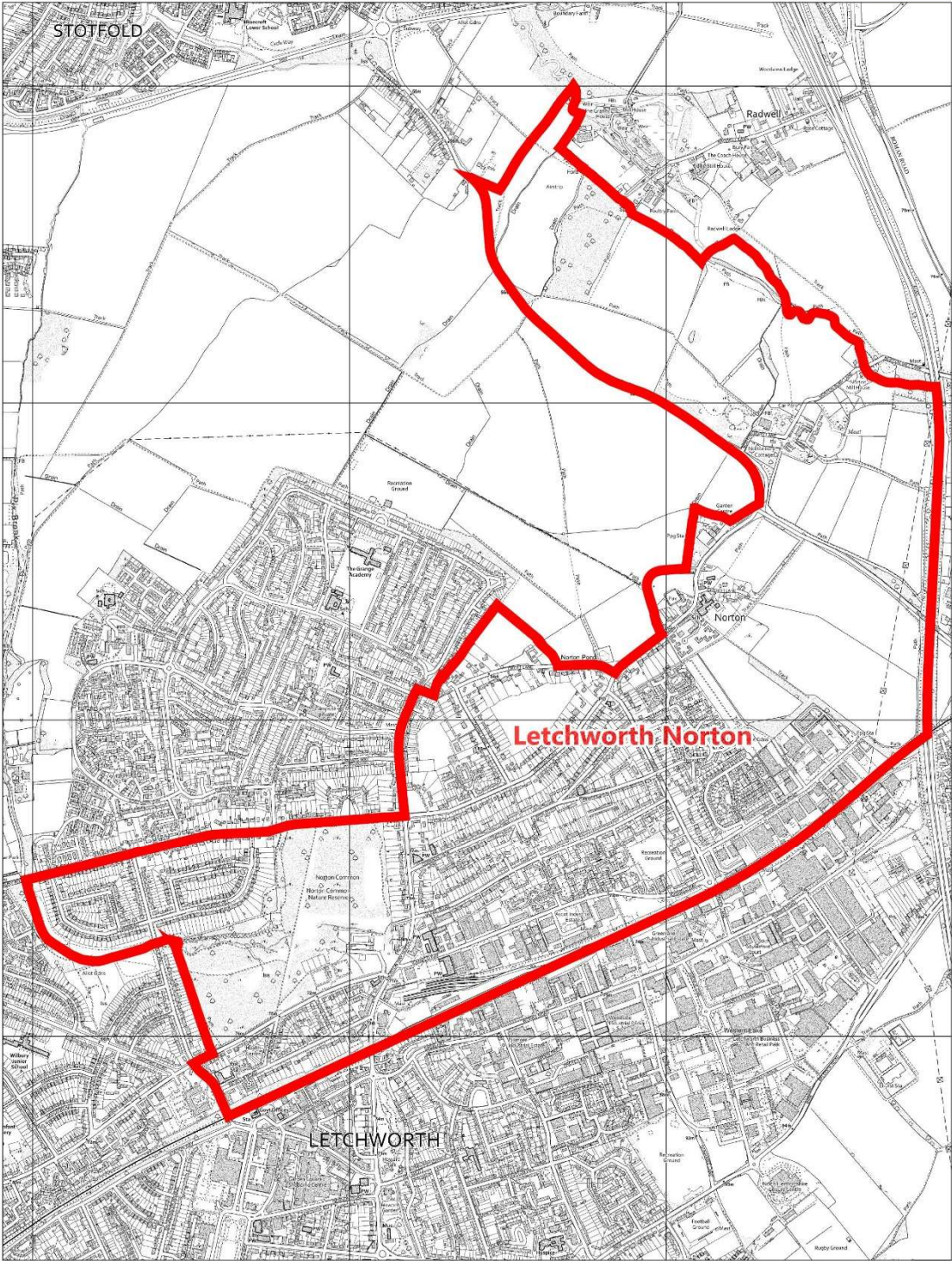


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Proposed Letchworth Norton Ward



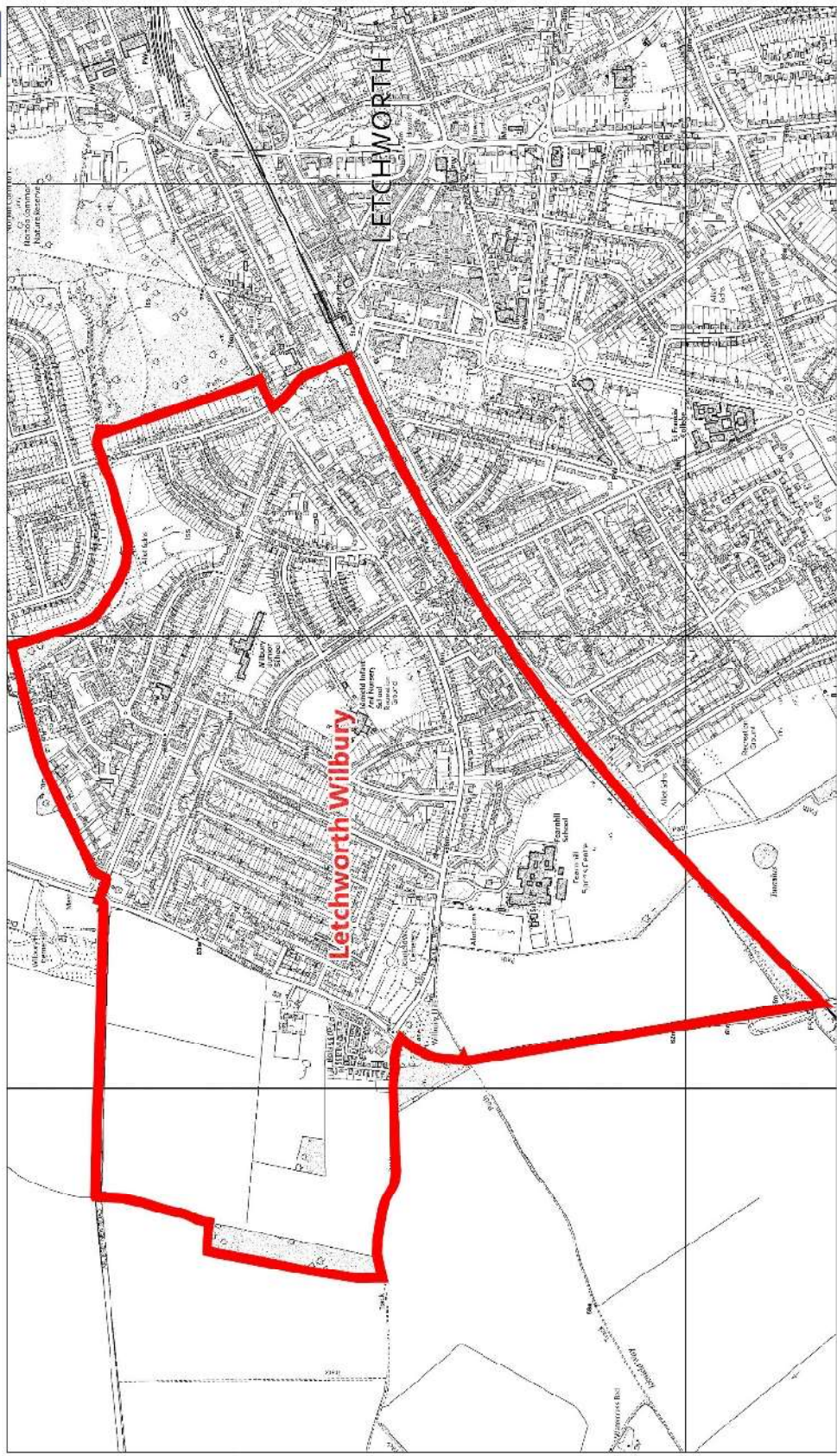
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Proposed Letchworth Wilbury Ward



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Ward summary

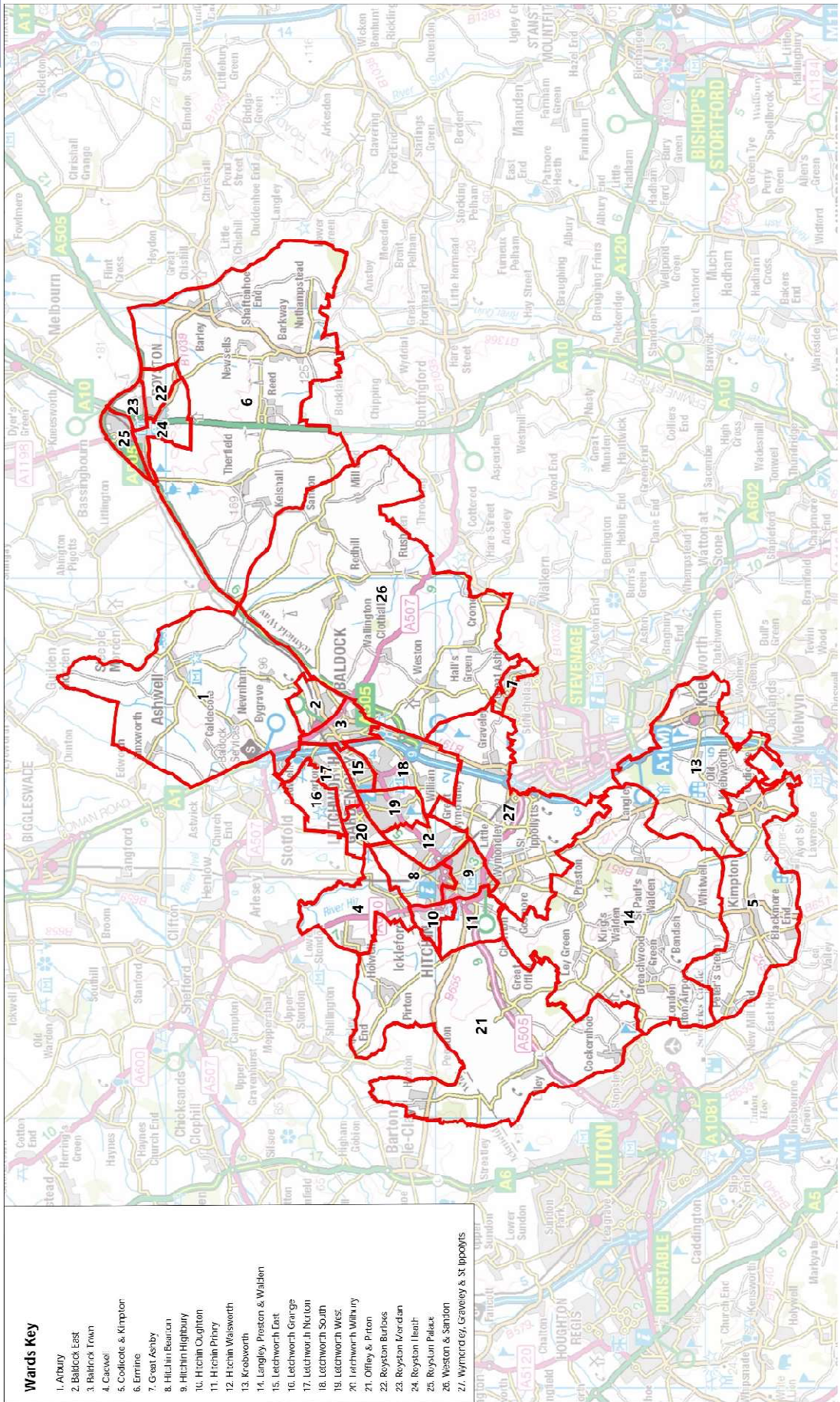
The preceding pages have shown electorate variances based on a total of 50 Councillors. However, in order to fully represent the communities within North Herts district whilst maintaining electoral equality and delivering effective and convenient local government, this submission includes a total of 51 Councillors. The table below highlights the impact of that change. The wards now outside of the 10% variance (Ermine at 10.4%, and Letchworth West at 10.3%) are only just so, and the warding arrangement submitted is based on local communities. Therefore it is felt that this is appropriate.

New ward	Cllrs	2028 figures (51 Cllrs)	
		Electorate	Variance
Ermine	1	2441	10.4%
Arbury	1	2266	2.5%
Cadwell	1	2390	8.1%
Offley & Pirton	2	4577	3.5%
Knebworth	2	4835	9.4%
Codicote & Kimpton	2	4422	0.0%
Langley, Preston & Walden	1	2418	9.4%
Wymondley, Graveley & St Ippolyts	2	4135	-6.5%
Weston & Sandon	1	2391	8.2%
Great Ashby	2	4527	2.4%
Baldock East	2	4225	-4.4%
Baldock Town	3	6147	-7.3%
Royston Palace	2	4309	-2.5%
Royston Meridien	2	4104	-7.2%
Royston Burloes	1	2146	-2.9%
Royston Heath	2	4205	-4.9%
Hitchin Walsworth	3	7027	6.0%
Hitchin Bearton	3	6251	-5.7%
Hitchin Oughton	2	4177	-5.5%
Hitchin Highbury	3	7065	6.5%
Hitchin Priory	1	2083	-5.8%
Letchworth South	3	6259	-5.6%
Letchworth West	2	4878	10.3%
Letchworth East	1	2428	9.8%
Letchworth Wilbury	2	4086	-7.6%
Letchworth Norton	2	4078	-7.8%
Letchworth Grange	2	4860	9.9%

Proposed North Herts Council Wards

Wards Key

- 1. Abury
- 2. Baldock East
- 3. Baldock Town
- 4. Carwell
- 5. Colkote & Kimpston
- 6. Emrine
- 7. Great Ashby
- 8. Hitchin Bearson
- 9. Hitchin Highbury
- 10. Hitchin Oldington
- 11. Hitchin Priory
- 12. Hitchin Walsworth
- 13. Knebworth
- 14. Langley, Preston & Walden
- 15. Letchworth East
- 16. Letchworth George
- 17. Letchworth North
- 18. Letchworth South
- 19. Letchworth West
- 20. Letchworth Wilbury
- 21. Offley & Pilton
- 22. Royston Barbes
- 23. Royston Warden
- 24. Royston Heath
- 25. Royston Palace
- 26. Weston & Santon
- 27. Wymerley, Graveley & St. Ippolits



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